

Louisville Democrat.

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TUESDAY.....MARCH 17, 1857.

The Indiana Apportionment Law.

The Madison Courier, of Saturday last, has a half column of grumbling over the only act of general interest that the Republican majority in the Indiana Senate suffered to pass at the late session, because they knew that it ministered to their interests.

The half column in question commences with a parade of the "anxiety" and "willingness" of the "Republican members of the Legislature to pass all necessary laws," and produces that act as an evidence of it; and, after sliding over the apportionment in the Northern portion of the State, as regulated with "pretended fairness," charges that the Southern portion has been "gymnasticized to suit the interests of the bogus Democracy."

Such an assertion would provoke a smile of derision upon any one present during the gerrymandering labors of these "Republican members."

Such an assertion might provoke the exclamation, "Lord how this world is given to lying," from those present who heard the Senator from Jefferson county and the City of Madison, whose organ this Courier is, openly proclaim in the Senate that "the apportionment was not made in the ratio of population (or fairness), but in the ratio of parties." In this way alone he could excuse the manifest injustice which had transferred one representative from Clark county, where they had but a Senator with Scott county, to his own Jefferson county, where they had a Senator for themselves. Injustice was admitted to have been done to Clark, a Democratic county, to benefit Jefferson, a Know-Nothing-Republican county. This is gerrymandering for Republican supremacy and was so admitted by the Republican Senator from the editor's own county, in effect, if not in terms.

With entire ignorance or malindulgence the Courier editor assigns Harrison county, less than twenty miles from this, in the second Congressional district, to the pocket comprising only the lower portion of the first Congressional district of Indiana, more than fifty miles distant. He then, with equal stupidity, states that Harrison county, "of whose Republicanism there have been sanguine expectations, is dovelated with Washington, thus defeating all hopes of Harrison." Now this will be news to the voters of Harrison county, which has not given an Anti-Democratic majority, or other than a decided Democratic majority, since the advent of the Nine-Law-Know-Nothingism, or Republicanism, and where, since the development of the latter, some hundreds have been added to the Democratic majority, and the Democratic plurality over Fremont was greater than in any county in the vicinity.

One of the sins of the bill is the dovelating this county with Washington instead of Orange or Crawford. To Democratic optics the difference to the Democratic party is imperceptible, and the editor must console himself with his "mam's-nee'st" to nestled in without danger of involving controversy from any one acquainted with statistics, who thereby knows that the change carries its own refutation.

Instead of the passage of the apportionment law exalting the fairness of the Republicans in the Indiana Legislature, it distinctly develops the "rule or ruin" policy of that opposition in trying to a fair bill as presented to them from a Democratic House—such bold gerrymandering of a Republican Senate that their own Senators could not pretend to speak of its fairness to the people. Their audacity was ample for almost any false positions, but shrank from this last.

The editor's Senator exhibited an ample share of this shameless quality. Having in the session of 1855 asseverated again and again that he should not "dare" to postpone a Senatorial election, and again and again pledged himself to go into such an election when his party was in the majority, when the latter event occurred, he was of the first to announce and pursue any disorganizing expedient to stave off such election. Two years had revolutionized—broken the most solemn pledges! Could audacity go further?

The Journal upon the Dred Scott Case.

The importance of this question is greatly enhanced by the fact that it is the most important question of the country. At a single blow it shatters and destroys the foundations of the Republican party. It annihilates the base upon which it rests, and it is destined to be the cause of its final overthrow.

President, and takes away from the Democratic party the right to self-government.

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